

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 03506 180759Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----054122 182037Z /53

R 180701Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5801
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3506

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT,JO
SUBJECT: HUSSEIN--NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL PROPOSAL

REF: AMMAN 3356

1. IN A SHORT DISCUSSION APRIL 17, HUSSEIN PASSED ON
FOLLOWING PERSONAL THOUGHTS ABOUT PROPOSED LAW WHICH
HE HAS ASKED PRIME MINISTER TO DRAW UP ESTABLISHING A
NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL.

2. HUSSEIN SAID THAT LISTS OF APPOINTEES
HAVE NEARLY BEEN DRAWN UP AND ADMITTED IT WOULD CAUSE
SOME UNHAPPINESS AND CONCERN, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE
MANY JORDANIANS WHO THOUGHT AND EXPECTED THEY SHOULD
BE APPOINTED AND WHO WOULD NOT BE. KING CONFIRMED WHAT
SHARAF HAD TOLD US EARLIER, THE HE (HUSSEIN) WAS MOST
PROMINENT ADVOCATE OF INCLUDING WOMEN ON THE LIST AND
THAT WE COULD REST ASSURED HIS POSITION WOULD PREVAIL.
HE SAID PROBABLY A FEW OF THE CURRENT CROP OF SENATORS
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WOULD ALSO BE APPOINTED. NEW COUNCILORS WOULD BE
CHOSEN FROM CONSTITUENCIES WHERE THEY WOULD REPRESENT
POPULATION ON SAME BASIS AS A FUTURE PARLIAMENT.
FUNCTIONAL REPRESENTATION WOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED.
JORDANIANS OF BOTG EAST BANK AND PALESTINIAN ORIGIN WOULD
SERVE. HE SEEMED A LITTLE BIT CONCERNED ABOUT THE KING
OF UPSET WHICH MIGHT BE CREATED BY THE PROBLEMS

OF NARROWING THE LIST DOWN, BUT NEVERTHELESS MMDE CLEAR
HE WAS ANXIOUS TO PERSEVERE. HE SAID LIST WILL BE ANNOUNCED
IN A FEW DAYS.

3. HE REPEATED AGAIN HIS HOPE THAT ELECTIONS WILL TAKE
PLACE, BUT THE PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE CREATED FOR JORDAN IN
THE ARAB WORLD AND AT HOME BY HAVING THEM TAKE PLACE NOW
MADE IT NECESSARY TO MAKE THIS HALF-WHITTOMUSE STOP INSTEAD.
PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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